

**University Academic Affairs Committee**  
**Agenda**  
**April 12, 2016**  
**3:30 P.M.**  
**HCC 310**

**Committee:** Janine Davis (at large; chair), Dianne Baker (CAS), Keith Mellinger (at large), Woody Richardson (COB), Beverly Epps (COE; secretary)

**Ex officio:** Kimberly Buster-Williams, Rita Dunston, Tim O'Donnell, Jonathan Levin, Wes Hillyard, Sarah Clay (student member)

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**Present:**

**Committee:** Janine Davis, Dianne Baker, Keith Mellinger, Woody Richardson

**Ex officio:** Kimberly Buster-Williams, Rita Dunston, Tim O'Donnell, Jonathan Levin, Wes Hillyard

**Guest:** Richard Finkelstein

**1. Welcome**

**2. Language task force report (Morello)**

- a. John Morello delivered a brief report about the task force meeting recommendations for the language requirement.
- b. At least 12 items need to be resolved before implementation can occur.
- c. Fall 2018 would be the earliest date for implementation

**3. Proposal for SAT requirement change (Buster-Williams)**

- a. The attached proposal (Appendix A) was discussed. The goal is to remove a barrier to admission for BA/BS programs for older students, including military students.
- b. An additional rationale would be that the SAT is not as relevant a predictor of college success as it is for recent high school graduates.
- c. Implementation date would be as soon as possible pending the approval of the BOV.
- d. The committee voted and unanimously approved the proposed policy as written.

**4. Update on 3+3 law program (Finkelstein)**

- a. Richard Finkelstein shared new details about the agreement.
- b. It was noted that SACS-COC should review the program as well for both UMW and GMU, because it is a substantive change. We would send a signed copy of the agreement six months in advance of the implementation date.
- c. The residency requirements for the final year (15 of the final 21 credits) would need to be waived, which is a future issue for this committee. The agreement could be a formalization of the waiver for the students admitted to the program.
- d. A possible future issue for consideration is whether students may have complications transferring back the elective credit to make the 120 total credits if

they elect to not complete the JD portion of the program. The amount of credit for the GMU courses may need to be clarified.

- e. We would add to the proposal that Academic Services would certify the students who apply for this 3+3 program.
- f. We would also need to identify an additional contact person for the program, and an interest form for students to complete if it is marketed actively to incoming students.
- g. Review of the program every three years may need to increase to five years or as needed.
- h. Once program is fully developed and signed, and it includes mention of a waiver to the residency requirement, and the final approvals from GMU and UMW are obtained, the committee is in support of the agreement.

**5. Member changes for next year**

Janine and Dianne will move off the committee for next year.

**6. Adjourn**

**Submitted by Janine Davis**

## Appendix A

### MOTION: Proposal for SAT Requirement Change

To aid in a smoother transition for traditional transfer students, I propose a change to our existing policy on SAT/ACT score requirements. Currently, if a transfer student has less than 30 college credits we require SAT/ACT scores regardless of age. I propose that we change this requirement to: **Transfer students who have 30+ college credits or who have graduated from high school 5 or more years ago are not required to submit SAT/ACT scores.**

I believe this change will primarily be beneficial to our traditional transfer students who have serviced in our military, removing one barrier from the application process. Typically these prospective students have graduated high school 5 or more years ago and may not have had time during their military service to take many college classes. If the change is approved this would keep us from having to send these prospective students to the community college first to complete 30 credits, in hopes that they will then apply to UMW once they have completed enough credits.

Below are the requirements of our main transfer competitors. Provide for comparison of their current policies. All information was taken directly from their websites.

**VCU-** “Transfer applicants younger than 22 years of age who have earned fewer than 30 semester/45 quarter hours of college credit must submit SAT or ACT scores. It is recommended that you have your test scores sent to VCU electronically.”

**GMU-** “Mason may offer admission to a very small number of students who have fewer than 30 hours of earned university-level credit. In addition to the requirements mentioned above, these applicants must present:

- Secondary school transcript
- ACT or SAT scores

Students who graduated from high school more than five years prior to enrollment at Mason are not required to submit SAT or ACT scores.”

**CNU-** “**SAT and/or ACT scores sent directly to CNU** (*required if you graduated from high school five or fewer years ago*).”

**ODU-** “Official SAT or ACT (if less than two years since high school graduation)”

**Radford-** “If you have completed fewer than 24 semester hours of college level coursework, your high school transcripts and standardized test results will be considered along with your college course work.”

**William and Mary-** “If you have completed less than a full year of college coursework when you apply, you must submit SAT or ACT scores. Test scores listed on the high school transcript will be accepted. If you have been out of high school for more than five years, SAT or ACT scores are not required.”